

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After entry of the foregoing amendments, Claims 1-57 are pending in the present application. Claims 8, 12, and 19-22 are amended, without introduction of new matter, to correct typographical errors. Support for the amendments is self-evident from the originally-filed claims.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement mailed on April 19, 2005, Applicants elect, with traverse, the invention of Figure 21. Claims 1, 2, 8, 12, 13, 19, 21, 23-25, 28, 30, 32-34, 38, 40-42, 47, 49-51, 55, and 57 are readable on the elected species.

Applicants traverse the outstanding Requirement on the grounds that it has not been established that it would be an undue burden to examine each of the noted inventions and claims together. Under M.P.E.P. § 803, an Election is not proper if a search and examination can be made without a serious burden on the Examiner; and if the outstanding Requirement has not established that examining each of the currently-pending claims together would result in an undue burden.

MPEP § 803 specifically states:

#### **Restriction – When Proper**

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

\*\*\*\*\*

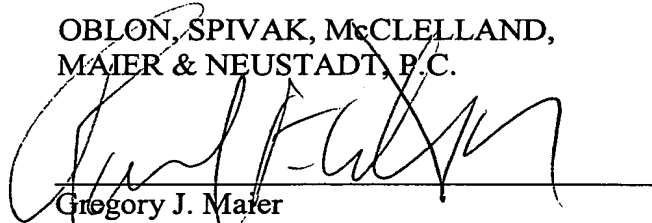
#### **GUIDELINES**

[A] serious burden on the examiner may be *prima facie* shown if the examiner shows by appropriate explanation of *separate classification, or separate status in the art, or a different field of search as defined in MPEP § 808.02*. [emphasis added]

A *prima facie* showing of serious burden has not been established ***by appropriate explanation***. In fact, no explanation is given in the Requirement. Accordingly, each of the noted inventions and claims should be examined on their merits.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gregory J. Maier', is written over a horizontal line.

Gregory J. Maier  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 06/04)

Raymond F. Cardillo  
Registration No. 40,440

GJM/RFC/STD/kke  
I:\ATTY\STD\21'S\217311US\217311US.ELECTION.DOC